

# Newnham News

From the Headteacher of Newnham Croft Primary School  
Mrs J Jones (office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk)

September 11<sup>th</sup> 2009

## Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the autumn term 2009. It is wonderful to have Y3 and Y4 in their new classrooms. As you will see, the exciting building project has moved on apace over the summer break. Behind the fenced off compound Y5 and Y6 rooms are nearing completion. New break out spaces and disabled facilities are also nearly ready for use. We anticipate upper KS2 children moving back in the October half term. In the interim period Y5 and Y6 classrooms will remain in Owlstone Croft on the Queen's College site next door. Our thanks go to Queen's College for supporting us in this way. I would also like to thank all of you who have helped with the project, Newnham Nursery and the senior Newnham residents lunch-time club (who are both back in the community room this term), the Scouts Association for kindly allowing Y4 children to set up camp in the scout's hut last term and staff, children, parents and governors who have worked together during the build period to ensure that children's learning was not disrupted. I would particularly like to thank Mrs Bergit Carolyn, Mrs Sue Haines, Mr Islay Currie, Mrs Kate Jones, Belle Currie, Naomi and Martha Cooper Jones who helped us get Y3 and Y4 rooms set up for this term.

Watch out for the official opening of KS2 later this term!

## Welcome to Newnham Croft

It is good to welcome many new families and students to our community this term. For families new to our school please do look out for community events and news posted on our PTA board outside the kitchen. We also welcome Mr Jonathan Catley (Y1/2 teacher) and Mrs Nicky Rodgers (Y3) onto the staff team this term.

## International School Award

In recognition of the range and depth of cultural enrichment and development opportunities on offer at Newnham Croft School we have been re-accredited with the British Council International School Award. This award is accredited from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 until August 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. The trophy will be awarded at a special ceremony on Friday October 16<sup>th</sup>. I will keep you posted on this.

## Meet the teacher evening

There will be a meet the teacher evening open house event on Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup> between 5 and 6.00pm. This will be an informal opportunity to pop in and say hello. Please do join us for wine and nibbles.

## Its all Greek to us

You may have noticed our visitors from ancient Greece on the first day of term, who came into upper KS2 to introduce the Y5/6 Greek themed study unit. You may also have noticed the

rather striking resemblance they bore to Miss Turner and Miss Holliday! Here are Sophie and Millan finding out about life in Greece in ancient times.



## Race for Life

Well done to Newnham Croft competitors who took part in the 5km charity Race For Life on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Helen Bracey, Mrs Ann Cunningham, Mrs Angelina Mahoney, Lily Bracey, Charlotte Cunningham and Jasmine Mahoney all took part. I understand that Mrs Mahoney completed the race in 35 minutes a personal best. For more information and pictures of the event visit [www.heart.co.uk](http://www.heart.co.uk)

## Do you want a job with us?

We are currently looking for a member of staff to work with Michelle and Linda in our kitchen. The job will be for up to five days a week. We can offer you a friendly working environment and the opportunity to work with our delightful children. For more information please do contact either Michelle or I.

## Newnham Nursery

*"Newnham Nursery opened its doors for the first time. It replaces Little Croft Nursery, which closed this summer. The nursery is under new ownership and management and the highly experienced and qualified team will offer the same high quality education and care to the children."*

Vic Seghal

## Clubs

Clubs will start again next week. As last term, there are a huge range of activities on offer. If you have applied for a place in a club please ensure your child attends the first session; if your child does not attend the club regularly they may forfeit their place. Thank you to those of you who have offered to help with a club. We have had requests to trial an alternative sign in system for clubs next term. Mrs Burke and I have discussed this and will look at possible alternative ways of doing this next term.

## Books in Y4

Mr Goller would be very grateful for donations of any unwanted books suitable for the book shelves in the Y4

classroom. Fiction and non fiction would all be very much appreciated, thank you.

### **Kings College Choir Singing Initiative**

As part of the King's College Outreach initiative, our Y5 pupils have been invited to participate in the government funded "sing up initiative". The children will have 10 one hour sessions spread over the spring and summer terms. They will also be singing at a concert at King's College in July. There will also be 5 hrs professional development offered to staff here to develop singing teaching skills. We will finalise the dates when the college choir returns from their tour of the Far East later this month.

### **Cambridge Music - percussion lessons in school**

The percussion tutor has vacancies for the current year - if your child is interested in receiving a trial session, please notify the school office.

### **Breakfast Club**

I have been approached by several parents who have requested that we look at the possibility of running a breakfast club at the school. This was looked at a few years ago but as there was insufficient demand no club was started. However in the light of parental requests I felt it would be helpful to establish if there is now increased interest in us providing this facility for you. I therefore attach a breakfast club questionnaire for you to complete if you would like us to consider this.

### **School Nurse drop in surgeries**

Our school nurse Desda Jordan runs drop in surgeries in the school on a fortnightly basis between 8.45am and 9.30am. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child or family's health please do pop in. See diary dates for the surgery dates.

### **Harvest Festival**

There will be a harvest service at 9.30am on October 6<sup>th</sup>. As last year any harvest produce will be donated to Jimmy's Night Shelter for homeless adults in the city. We would be grateful for any donations of tinned goods, dried foods, winter clothing, toiletries and blankets.

### **And finally ...the Newnham Croft Chicken**

Newnham Croft School is now sponsoring a chicken called Delia Smith. Delia has been rescued (along with 500 hundred other chickens) by the Battery Hen Welfare Trust from a battery farm in Essex. She is currently living on a farm in Devon enjoying a splendid retirement which includes scratching outside, sunshine and sunbathing, laying eggs in a cosy nest and socialising at leisure with other likeminded chickens!

### **Diary Dates**

Meet the teacher evening.....	Sept 15
Y6 swimming starts .....	Sept 17
Curriculum letters go home.....	Sept 18
School nurse drop in surgery.....	Sept 24
Harvest Festival .....	Oct 6
School nurse drop in surgery.....	Oct 8
Parental consultations.....	Oct 20-21
Half term.....	Oct 26-30
Staff training.....	Nov 2
Children return to school.....	Nov 3
Arts Week.....	Nov 9
School nurse drop in surgery.....	Nov 11
KS1 play dress rehearsal .....	Dec 8
KS1 play.....	Dec 9-10
Carols around the tree (all welcome).....	Dec 15
Close of autumn term.....	Dec 18
<u>Spring Term 2010</u>	
Staff training day.....	Jan 4
Children return to school.....	Jan 5
Half term.....	Feb 15-19
Staff training day.....	Feb 22
Children return to school.....	Feb 23
Close of spring term.....	April 1
<u>Summer Term 2010</u>	
Staff training day.....	April 19
Children return to school.....	April 20
Half term.....	May 31-June 4
Close of summer term.....	July 22

Kind regards from Jacqueline Jones and Staff